

CITY OF EYOTA  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 23, 2017

Members Present: Tyrel Clark, Tony Nelson and Kurt Holst

Members Absent: Bryan Cornell and Ray Schuchard

Staff Present: Deputy McFarlen; Brad Boice, Public Works Supervisor and Marlis Knowlton, Clerk/Treasurer

**Call to Order:** Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approve Agenda:** Motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Holst to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:** Delete 4.B from the Consent Agenda because donations need a four-fifths vote to pass. Motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Holst to approve the consent agenda items 4.A, 4.C and 4.D as presented. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

4.A Minutes of the February 9, 2017 regular Council meeting approved as presented.

4.B was deleted

4.C Approved entering into a contract with Wigham Services for 2017 street sweeping services at a minimum cost of \$3,190.

4.D Approve Iris Neumann to attend the Minnesota Farmers' Market Association Spring Conference and Annual Meeting in Monticello, MN – Tuesday, March 21, 2017. Registration fee \$60, mileage, meals and possible lodging expenses.

**REPORTS:**

**Community Officer:** Deputy McFarlen summarized the calls for service report. There were some thefts and burglaries during that time period, he reminds people to lock your doors and close your garage doors. McFarlen will be teaching fifth grade DARE (drug abuse resistance education) next year.

Chief Deputy Waletzki was present and commented that the Sheriff's Office, School and City should start talking mid-summer about renewing the contracts for 2018-2019.

**Planning Commission:** Knowlton reported the Commission continued with the codification process; and items for consideration are included on the Council's agenda later tonight which include ordinance policy type changes. The Commission considered the Council's request to change the zoning ordinance to allow multiple living quarters on the second floor of commercial buildings in the downtown commercial district and for the required adequate parking to be allowed to be leased versus owned and on site. The Commission disagreed; there are only three buildings this affects and they said those owners could request a variance for each unique situation. The Council was not in agreement with this and would like to talk about it again.

The flood plain ordinance wording will need to be changed prior to the codification process being completed due to the fact that flood maps have been updated and the State requires ordinance wording to be updated before mid-April. A public hearing has been scheduled for March 21 by the Commission. It is anticipated a conditional use permit hearing will also be scheduled that night for construction of the new Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

The next regular Planning Commission meeting has been changed to March 13.

**Economic Development Authority (EDA):** Clark reported the census and recent information regarding Arbor Gardens. EDA continues to work on a Save & Build promotion. Council consensus: agreed with the EDA to spend \$97 for Cathy Enerson for a Google Analytics seminar and for Tealwood to sign payroll expense related reimbursement checks with authorization from Knowlton. Clark noted that the Little Eagles Daycare did not receive the grant they applied for through DEED.

**DESCASD Sewer Board:** Nelson reported the District's assets at \$1,199,194.81. There were no plant violations. Nelson will work with Brad Boice, Public Works Supervisor, to create means to track water used during fires in order to deduct that usage from the amount the City pays the District for water metered from the wells.

**Clerk Report:** Knowlton reported that she attended a People's Energy Cooperative Board meeting with Clark. People's is working on creating a new street light policy to include rates, equipment, lights, etc. People's will be upgrading the substation (near the intersection of Highway 14 and Center Avenue) this spring. It will cause power interruptions for previous Alliant customers and the upgrades will reduce the length of power outages in the future.

Knowlton attended another planning meeting to revise the Olmsted County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. This step was to start on the County wide general hazards and actions. The next step will be to meet with each entity (townships, cities) and edit that list to be specific to each individual entity. Schools are encouraged to participate in this planning and public/community input is also requested. There will be future public meetings in the planning process.

### **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

**Snow Removal – Snow Gate:** Boice investigated purchasing a snow gate. Gates are designed for road graders, which the City does not own. There are multiple concerns, maintenance issues and expense to try to put a gate on a truck plow. Council agreed not to pursue purchasing one.

**Public Works Vehicles:** Boice again reviewed pros and cons to replace the 1994 Dodge pickup or purchase a recreational terrain vehicle (RTV). The Council agreed an RTV could be used in more applications than a pickup; for example in the parks and for trails maintenance.

Motion was made by Holst and seconded by Nelson to purchase a 2017 Kubota RTVX 110 for \$18,500 from St. Joseph Equipment, a fifteen gallon sprayer with hand wand and extra's that Boice sees fit including safety/hazard lights for on top. Discussion: funds will be used from reserves that were designated for a future pickup. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

**Compost Site – Blocks:** Boice recommended purchasing concrete blocks to create bins to hold materials at the future Eyota compost site. Bids were submitted.

Motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Holst to approve purchasing approximately 68 concrete blocks from Dover Ready Mix for approximately \$3,400. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

There will be additional expense to haul the blocks here, approximately \$600-\$800. Boice will look into possibly re-using the signs from the previous site.

**Arbor Gardens Sealcoating:** Boice reported the engineers have estimated the cost to sealcoat the parking and driveway could be \$5,000. But it was noted that crack filling needs to be done first and that will be an additional expense. An official bid is being requested. Boice suggested that Arbor Gardens could use the excess chips the City has in storage to reduce their cost. No action was taken.

**Board of Appeal and Equalization:** Olmsted County Property Records has scheduled the annual Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting for April 17 at 5:00 p.m. The Council requested the County be contacted and request the meeting be scheduled for a later time, maybe 6:00 or 6:30. Knowlton will contact the County with the request. No action taken.

**DM&E Railroad Line Abandonment:** The Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad (DM&E) has been in negotiations with Kruegel Gas Service and the Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota regarding the rail line that goes off to the north from 19th Street SE to County Road 9. This line is still considered an active line and needs to be changed to DM&E's definition of an abandoned line in order to be sold. Kruegel will purchase approximately one half mile of rail line for their business use. The City has been requested to send a letter of support for this transaction.

Motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Holst to approve submitting the sample letter of support regarding the proposed DM&E railroad abandonment. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

**Economic Development Study Support Request:** Request from the Southeastern Minnesota League of Municipalities (SEMLM) to pass a resolution expressing local support for an Economic Development Study for area communities to help prepare for coming changes throughout our region.

Motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Holst to move RESOLUTION #2017-08 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY where the City of Eyota asks the Minnesota State Legislature to fund the Southeast Minnesota Regional Economic Study. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

**Ordinance Codification:** The Planning Commission is recommending basic changes in the fundamental policies that the City has been using for many years in both the Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances. The Council's support is being requested before moving forward with creating the new city code.

Recommendations are:

Subdivision Ordinance:

Sidewalks: change the wording from requiring sidewalks to the placement of sidewalks or trails will be determined by the location of the plat/subdivision and based on the details of each individual project. The Council agreed with this change

Dedicated Land Required for Public Use: the quantity of land will be equal to 0.1 acre per residential dwelling unit. The Council agreed with this change.

Zoning Ordinance:

Interim Use Permits will be added. Council agreed.

Table 4.1 indicates permission of uses in each zoning district; there were numerous changes made and Council was asked to review them carefully.

Planned Unit Development regulations will be added. Council agreed.

Nonconforming structures and uses language was revised to conform to recent State Statute changes.

Knox Boxes, boxes holding keys for entry into businesses and churches by the Fire Department, will now be required for all new construction. Council agreed.

Solar Garden Farm regulations are being added. Council agreed.

Accessory building setbacks will now be generally five feet versus seven and one half. Council agreed.

Board of Adjustment is being recommended to be changed from the Council to the Planning Commission. Discussion raised concern and the Council requested this be discussed again at the next meeting.

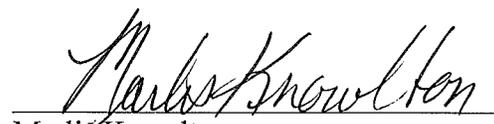
**Accounts Payable:** Motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Holst to approve the accounts payable in the total amount of \$13,488.84. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried. See "Exhibit 6.H"

**Other Business:** None.

**Adjourn:** Motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Holst to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried. The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

  
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Tyrel Clark  
Mayor

  
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Marlis Knowlton  
Clerk/Treasurer